

Accessing Text-To-Speech (TTS) Audio for NeSA-Reading, Mathematics, and Science

System Requirements for TTS Audio

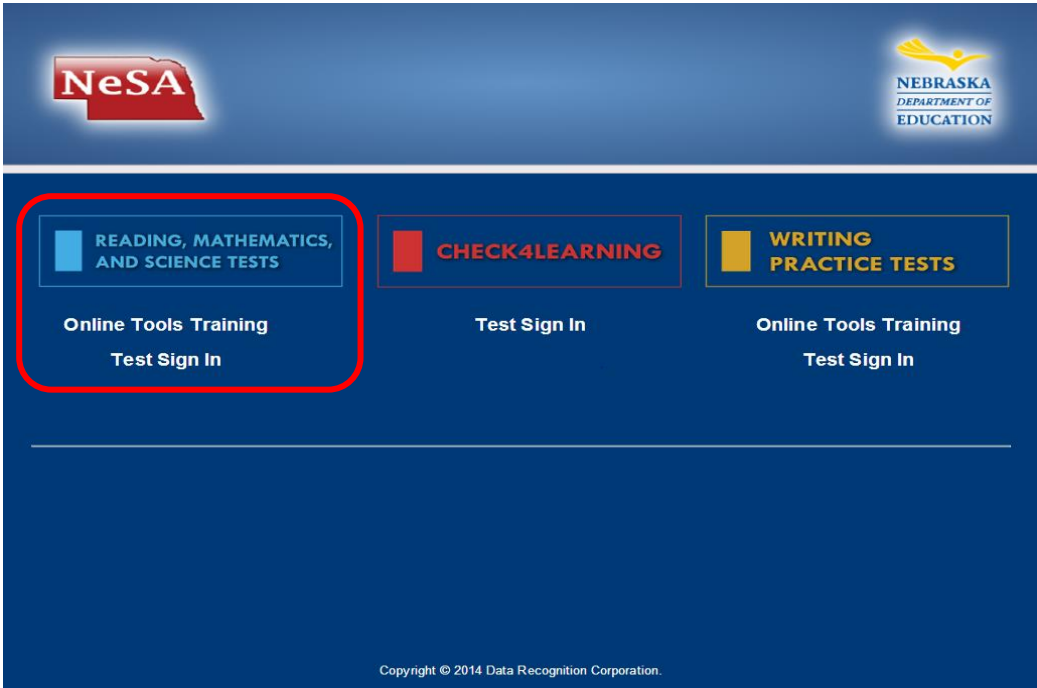
All practice and operational TTS Audio test forms must be accessed through DRC INSIGHT secure browser software. Due to the size of TTS Audio test forms and the bandwidth required for their delivery, DRC INSIGHT software installed on computers students will use to take the TTS Audio forms are required to be connected to a Testing Site Manager (TSM). The TSM caches the content of the TTS Audio test forms on your local network, reducing the amount of Internet bandwidth required to download the tests. For more information about installing a TSM and configuring the DRC INSIGHT secure browser software, see the *DRC INSIGHT Technology User Guide for Nebraska*.

Process for Accessing TTS Versions of the Online Tools Training (OTTs), Practice Tests (PTs), and Guided Practice Tests (GPTs)

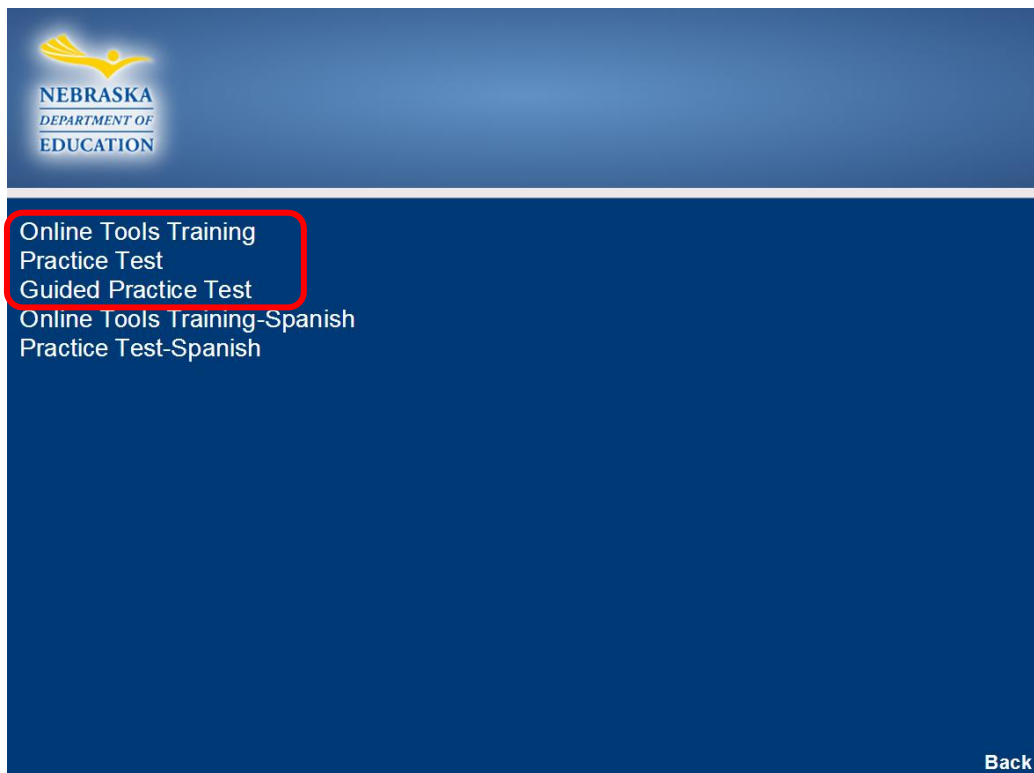
1. Launch the DRC INSIGHT secure browser by selecting the NE Online Assessments INSIGHT icon on the desktop.



2. Select the Online Tools Training link for the NeSA-RMS administration.



3. On the OTT Selection Page, select the Online Tools Training (OTT), Practice Test (PT), or Guided Practice Test (GPT) for the desired subject and grade. **NOTE:** Audio is not available for Spanish translations of online NeSA tests.



4. On the login page for selected OTT, PT, or GPT, add “audio” to the Username as shown in the example below. Enter the Password “test1234” as shown on screen. The modified Username and standard password will provide the student with access to the TTS Audio for the selected OTT, PT, or GPT.

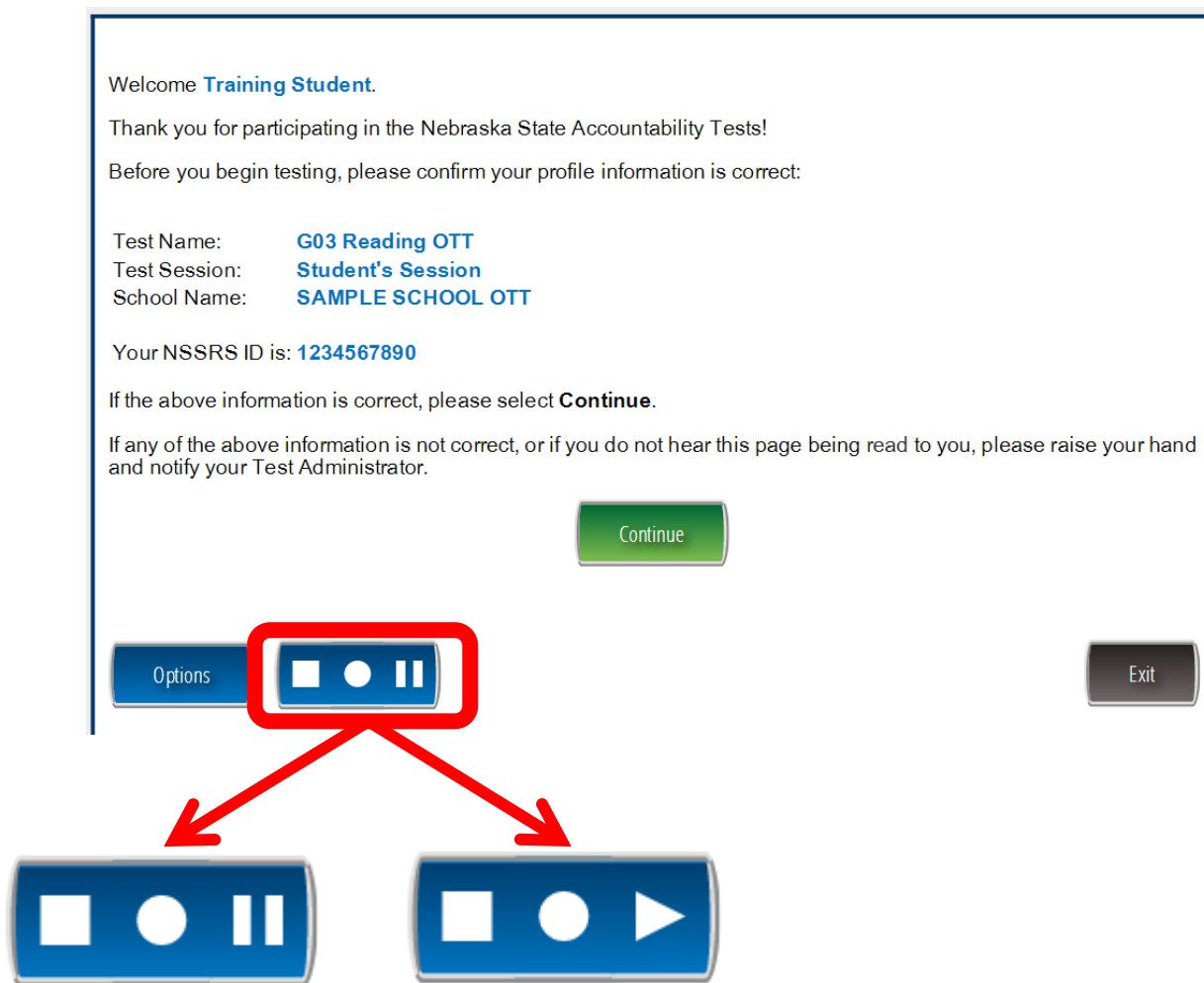
A screenshot of the login page for the selected OTT, PT, or GPT. The page has a dark blue background. At the top left is the Nebraska Department of Education logo. Below the logo, the text "Please sign in with the following credentials." is displayed. Underneath, the "Username: ot03reading" and "Password: test1234" are shown, with a red rectangular box highlighting both. Below this, there are input fields for "Username:" and "Password:". The "Username:" field contains "ot03readingaudio" and is highlighted with a red rectangular box. The "Password:" field contains "test1234" and is also highlighted with a red rectangular box. To the right of the input fields is a blue "Sign In" button. In the bottom left corner, there is a "Back" link. In the bottom right corner, the text "vfinite rev:3ea7ed5" is displayed. At the very bottom, the text "Copyright © 2014 Data Recognition Corporation." is visible.

Using TTS Audio Versions of the NeSA-Reading, Mathematics, and Science Tests

Audio for a given page will begin playing automatically when the new page loads. Audio is available on every INSIGHT page after the student logs in. In addition to playing audio for test content, audio is played for hover text associated with INSIGHT tool and navigation buttons. Students will also hear audio indicating which answer choice they have selected for each item. While the audio playback can be stopped on each item individually, students assigned to TTS Audio forms of a test cannot turn off audio features for the entire test.

Note: Testing sites are responsible for providing headsets and/or the appropriate testing environment for students using the TTS audio forms of the NeSA-Reading, Mathematics, and Science tests.

When students access the TTS Audio version of a NeSA test, they are presented with an Audio tool button in the lower navigation panel.



The Audio tool button will appear on all pages of the test on which TTS Audio content is available. The square on the left represents the audio "Stop" command. The "Pause/Play" command on the right will change between the Pause symbol when audio is playing and the Play triangle when audio is paused or stopped. The circle in the center of the Audio tool activates "Starting Points."

When Starting Points is selected from the Audio tool button, a visual indicator will appear next to parts of an item for which audio is available. See the example in the screenshot below. When Starting Points is selected, the other navigation and tool buttons on an item will be inactivated until a student either selects one of the starting points for playback or selects Starting Points on the Audio tool button again. This is indicated by the grayed-out buttons in the screenshot below.

Starting Points allow students to isolate parts of an item they need to listen to again. As the name Starting Points indicates, selecting one of the starting points will play all available audio for that item from that point forward. For example, if a student selects the starting point before answer option B, the audio for answer option B will play, followed by the audio for answer options C and D.

Note: Audio is not provided for NeSA-Reading passages. Selecting the starting point inside a reading passage will play all of the available audio for an item (i.e., the question and the answer choices).

The screenshot displays the 'Reading Grade 3 OTT' interface for a 'Training Student'. At the top, there is a toolbar with icons for navigation and tools, including a 'Line Guide' button. The main content area is titled 'Walking on the Moon' and includes a sub-instruction: '(Use the line guide to help track the text in the passage.)'. The passage text describes a student's experience on the moon, mentioning a metal disk and a video. A specific line of text is highlighted in italics: 'Floating through the air, like a helium filled balloon, your travels will not stop, until you reach the moon.' To the right of the passage, a question is posed: 'Why are the words "Floating through the air, like a helium filled balloon, your travels will not stop, until you reach the moon" written in italics?'. Below the question, four multiple-choice options are listed, each with a starting point icon (a blue dot) and a radio button. A red rectangular box highlights the question and the four answer choices. At the bottom of the interface, there is a navigation bar with buttons for 'Review/End Test', 'Pause', 'Flag', 'Options', and a media control bar with play, pause, and next buttons.

Reading Grade 3 OTT Training Student

Question 1

Walking on the Moon

(Use the line guide to help track the text in the passage.)

When I was in 4th grade, I got to take a trip to the moon. I remember the day like it was yesterday. It was one of the strangest experiences I'd ever had.

It all started when Miss Fritz, our fourth grade science teacher, was showing a video about the solar system and different planets. Halfway through the video, I noticed a sparkling metal disc, about the size of a quarter, lying on the floor. I kept trying to pay attention to the video, but found myself reaching over to pick up the shiny disk that was next to my desk.

As soon as I touched the metal disk, something strange happened. I wasn't in the classroom anymore. I was hovering in the air, way above the school. I could see the whole town, or rather the rooftops of the whole town. I was a little nervous, but also pretty excited. What was happening? How could I be floating?

It was then I remembered the metal disk I'd picked up from the floor earlier. Did it have something to do with the strange things that were happening to me right now? I opened my palm and looked closely at the disk. On the disk were the italicized words:

"Floating through the air, like a helium filled balloon, your travels will not stop, until you reach the moon."

More Text Below

Why are the words "Floating through the air, like a helium filled balloon, your travels will not stop, until you reach the moon" written in italics?

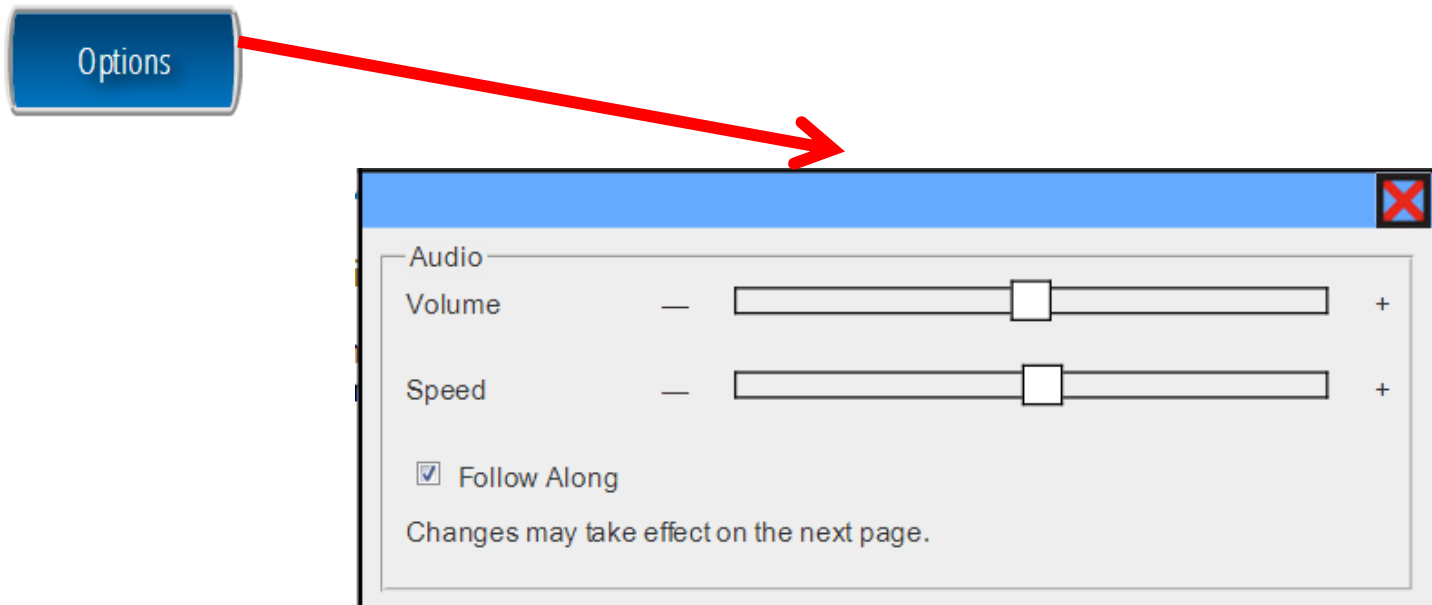
(Use the highlighter to highlight the italicized text in the passage.)

- ☐ a The teacher thinks they are important.
- ☐ b They are words the student says.
- ☐ c They are words from the video.
- ☐ d The words on the disk are important.

Review/End Test Pause Flag Options [Media Controls] Next

Note: Students must select a starting point or press the Starting Points symbol on the Audio tool button in order to use the other available INSIGHT tools or navigate away from the item displayed.

Students assigned to a TTS Audio form of a NeSA-Reading, Mathematics, or Science test also have the ability to control certain settings related to the TTS Audio features enabled on their tests. Select the Options button on any INSIGHT page to access these settings.



Students may adjust the playback volume and speed using the sliders provided.

Note: The INSIGHT secure browser locks out access to other programs and files on the testing computer, including the volume control built into the operating system. Use the Options button to access volume controls in INSIGHT instead.

The “Follow Along” feature included with TTS Audio test forms highlights each word on screen as audio for the word is playing. Follow Along is enabled as the default setting for the TTS Audio test forms. Students may turn it off by unchecking the Follow Along checkbox in the Audio options.

Assigning students to TTS Audio Versions of the Operational NeSA-Reading, Mathematics, and Science Tests

All students are initially assigned to the standard, non-audio forms of the NeSA-Reading, Mathematics, and Science tests. To assign students to TTS Audio versions of the NeSA tests:

1. In eDIRECT→Test Setup→Students, select the Accommodations tab for students that will use the TTS Audio form of the tests.
2. Check the Online Audio box for each subject for which the student will require this accommodation for testing and press the Save button in the lower left-hand corner.
3. Check the update report, which may indicate that the student’s test tickets need to be reprinted.